

Message Text

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51

ACTION AID-31

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 IO-12 ADP-00 IGA-02 OMB-01 EB-11

COME-00 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DOTE-00

RSR-01 /105 W

----- 034638

R 250835 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

TTRUEHC/ SECSTATE WASHDC 3797

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KIGALI

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUJUMBURA 0525

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, EGRN, BY, UN, IBRD

SUBJ: IBRD AND LAKE ROAD PROJECT

REF BUJUMBURA 1356 (NOTAL)

1. IBRD MISSION CAME TO BURUNDI IN EARLY MAY TO CHECK
ONCE AGAIN ON FEASIBILITY PROPOSED BUJUMBURA- RUMONGE-
NYANZA LAC ROAD IN LIGHT OF AFTERMATH LAST YEAR'S CIVIL
STRIFE. ACCORDING UNDEP RES REP LATOUR, THEY FOUND AREA
STILL LARGELY DEPOPULATED, BUT WOULD HAVE BEEN
SATISFIED WITH BURUNDI GOVERNMENT STATEMENT
SETTING FORTH REASONABLE PLAN FOR REPOPULATING AREA AND
EXPRESSING GOVERNMENT INTENTION TO CARRY IT OUT.

2. ACCORDING TO LATOUR, HE HAD TRIED EXPLAIN THIS TO
GRB EVEN BEFORE TEAM'S ARRIVAL, BUT FOR REASONS THAT
SEEMED INEXPLICABLE AT TIME, STATEMENT WAS NOT
ISSUED, EVEN THOUGH LATOUR HIMSELF HAD HELPED PUT
IT INTO FINAL FORM.

3. DURING DIPLOMATIC CORPS TRIP TO SOUTH (BUJUMBURA
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484), LATOUR HAD CHANCE DISCUSS MATTER WITH PRIMIN
NYAMOYA. APPARENTLY QUESTION HAD BEEN PRESENTED TO
NYAMOYA AS ULTIMATUM FROM WORLD BANK. LATOUR
EXPLAINED THAT THIS WAS ROUTINE REQUIREMENT OF THE
BANK FOR CASES LIKE THIS AND SHOULD NOT BE REGARDED
AS ULTIMATUM.

4. PRIME MINISTER EXPRESSED UNDERSTANDING AND A FEW
DAYS LATER LATOUR INFORMED EMBASSY THAT HE HAD
RECEIVED STATEMENT. IT CALLS FOR RESETTLING
SEVERAL THOUSAND FAMILIES IN AFFECTED AREA ALONG
SHORES LAKE TANGANYIKA.

5. COMMENT: SUCH RESETTLEMENT IS EASIER SAID THAN
DONE.
KEITER

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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DAR ES SALAAM
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